



E-Bike Discussion Brakes Toward Final Session

Public Encouraged To Participate In Parks & Recreation Oct. 14 Commission Meeting

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, COLORADO-October 12, 2020-The sixth and final discussion session for e-bike use within the city will head before the Parks & Recreation Commission this Wednesday, October 14 at 5pm. All sessions have looked at current conditions as well as if changes to the existing e-bike policy are warranted.

“We’ve had incredible input from the public early in this process,” commented Parks & Recreation Director Angela Cosby. “However, with coronavirus challenges and online meetings, we want to ensure this doesn’t drop off the radar for everyone who is interested as we finalize recommendations to move forward.”

Over the past five discussion sessions, Parks & Recreation has finalized motions recommending a 15mph speed limit for e-bikes on the Yampa River Core Trail, Walton Creek Trail and neighborhood trails; recommending a two-year trial period allowing Class 2 e-bikes on the Core and Walton Creek trails; and recommending a two-year trial period permitting Class I e-bikes on Blue Sage, Butcherknife, Tamarack Sneak, Bear Creek and Fox Creek with speed limits.

During the Wednesday October 14 evening session, staff is requesting input specifically on if Class I e-bikes should be allowed on Emerald Mountain or designating specific trails on Emerald Mountain for use.

“We want to thank everyone who has responded to the online questionnaires about e-bikes over the past several months,” said Parks, Open Space & Trails Manager Craig Robinson. “We’re shifting gears and now finalizing the recommendations for City Council from this group on several key points of the program including Emerald Mountain usage.”

E-Bike Class Overview

Class 1: Bicycle equipped with a motor that aids only when the rider is pedaling, and that ceases to help when the e-bikes reaches 20mph.

Class 2: Bicycle equipped with a throttle-actuated motor that ceases to aid when the e-bike reaches 20 mph.

The Parks & Recreation Commission will hold its final meeting discussing e-bikes this **Wednesday, October 14 at 5:00pm online via Zoom**. If you would like to participate, the link to the meeting is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89184845739> E-bikes are the only scheduled agenda item, so the discussion will start promptly at 5:00pm. The meeting packet can be found at www.steamboatsprings.net/agendas.

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